[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House that in accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly rules, I have received messages from the Hon. the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly transmitting copies of the following Bills as passed by the Assembly :—

(1) On 19th April 1948—The Madras Re-enacting and Repealing (No. I) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1948); the Madras Re-enacting (No. II) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 6 of 1948); the Madras Tobacco Taxation of Sales and Licensing (Re-enacting) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 12 of 1948); the Madras Restriction of Habitual Offenders (Amendment) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 13 of 1948);

(2) On 20th April 1948—The Madras Re-enacting (No. III) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 14 of 1948); the Madras Lapsed Acts (Removal of Doubts) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 15 of 1948); the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 16 of 1948); the Madras Civil Courts (Amendment) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 17 of 1948);

(3) On 21st April 1948—The Police (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 38 of 1947); the Madras Aided Institutions (Prohibition of Transfers of Property) Bill, 1948 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1948);

and signed by him for the concurrence of the Council."

III.—MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House the following message, dated the 2nd March 1948, from His Excellency the Governor :—

'In pursuance of section 82, sub-section (3), of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Archibald Edward Nye, Governor of Madras, hereby recommend to the Madras Legislative Council the consideration of the Madras Restriction of Habitual Offenders Bill, 1948.'

" I have to announce to the House the following message, dated the 7th April 1948, from His Excellency the Governor :—

'In pursuance of section 82, sub-section (3), of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Archibald Edward Nye, Governor of Madras, hereby recommend to the Madras Legislative Council the consideration of the Madras Re-enacting (No. III) Bill, 1948.'

[Mr. President] [22nd April 1948

"I have to announce to the House the following message, dated, Guindy, the 29th January 1948, from His Excellency the Governor :—

'In pursuance of section 82, sub-sections (1) and (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Archibald Edward Nye, Governor of Madras, hereby recommend to the Madras Legislative Council the consideration of the Madras Public Libraries Bill, 1947.' "

IV.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS RE-ENACTING AND REPEALING (NO. I) BILL (L.A. BILL NO. 3 OF 1948).

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'*that the Madras Re-enacting and Repealing* (*No.* I) *Bill*, (*L.A. Bill No. 3 of* 1948) [a] *as passed by the Legislative Assembly be taken into consideration at once.*'

"The House may remember that this Bill was introduced in this House for the appointment of a Joint Select Committee. Various Acts were passed during the Advisers' regime which lapse two years after the proclamation under section 93 is revoked. The Government examined these Acts one by one to see whether there is any need to re-enact or repeal them or allow them to lapse. Most of these Acts are intended to amend the original Acts for better administration. The original Bill as it was presented to the House contained three schedules, the first schedule relating to re-enactments, the second schedule to re-enactments with modifications, and the third schedule to repeals. The Joint Select Committee found that certain Acts required further examination before they were re-enacted permanently. So there are four schedules to the Bill as it has emerged from the Committee. The first schedule deals with re-enactments, the second schedule with re-enactments with modifications, the third schedule with re-enactments for one year only, and the fourth schedule with repeals. The Bill has been thoroughly examined by the Joint Select Committee and considered and approved by the Assembly. I move that it be taken into consideration at once."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I regret that this procedure should have been adopted by the Government for re-enacting a large number of Acts. This procedure is, in my opinion, not only irregular but also illegal. Certain Acts were passed by the Advisers' Government which functioned under section 93 of the Government of India Act, 1935. Section 93 (4) of that Act provided that these Acts should have effect only for a period of two years from the date on which the proclamation under section 93 ceased to have effect, unless they are sooner repealed or re-enacted. As such Acts lapse on the 30th of April 1948, the Government have now come forward with a Bill to re-enact certain Acts which they think are necessary to be continued.

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 190–201 infra.